

In summary:

Claims 15-22 have been cancelled; and

Claims 1-14 are herein addressed below.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 1, line 7, there is a lack of antecedent basis for "the purpose". In claim 1, lines 7-8, there is a lack of antecedent basis for "the same function". In claim 6, line 13, there is a lack of antecedent basis for "the same function".

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14 are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillery (4,235,048) in view of Finley (2002/0045073 A1). Gillery ('048) discloses a reversible window unit having reflective layers on an insulated glass mounted within a pivoting frame, which is mounted within a framed opening. Gillery ('048) fails to disclose a photocatalytic layer of titanium. Finley (2002/0045073 A1) discloses a photocatalytic layer of metal oxide titanium formed on a glass pane substrate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

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provide the reversible window assembly of Gillery ('048) with a photocatalytic layer of titanium as taught by Finley (2002/0045073 A1) since a self-cleaning layer allows the window assembly to be easily cleaned by itself. It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide layers on both the exterior and interior face of a window assembly since a reversible window would allow both surfaces to be positioned on the outside and a mere duplication of parts to provide layers on both sides of a window assembly would be an obvious design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The applicant's arguments have been considered but are not deemed persuasive. The applicant argues that it would not be obvious to provide photocatalytic coating on both sides for the following reasons: 1) would decrease the visibility through the panel and 2) such a design choice would render one coating generally nonfunctional because one coating would not receive direct/necessary sun light. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The movement of a window panel to pivot about an axis to expose both sides of the panel is well known in the art. Furthermore, adding a photocatalytic coating to a substrate which is activated by sunlight is also well known in the art and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the panel of Gillery with photocatalytic coating on both sides since a reversible window would provide equal protection no matter which side of the window is in the direct sunlight.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Redman whose telephone number is 571-272-6835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH from 8 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Mitchell, can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jerry Redman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3634